Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

3 October 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin:

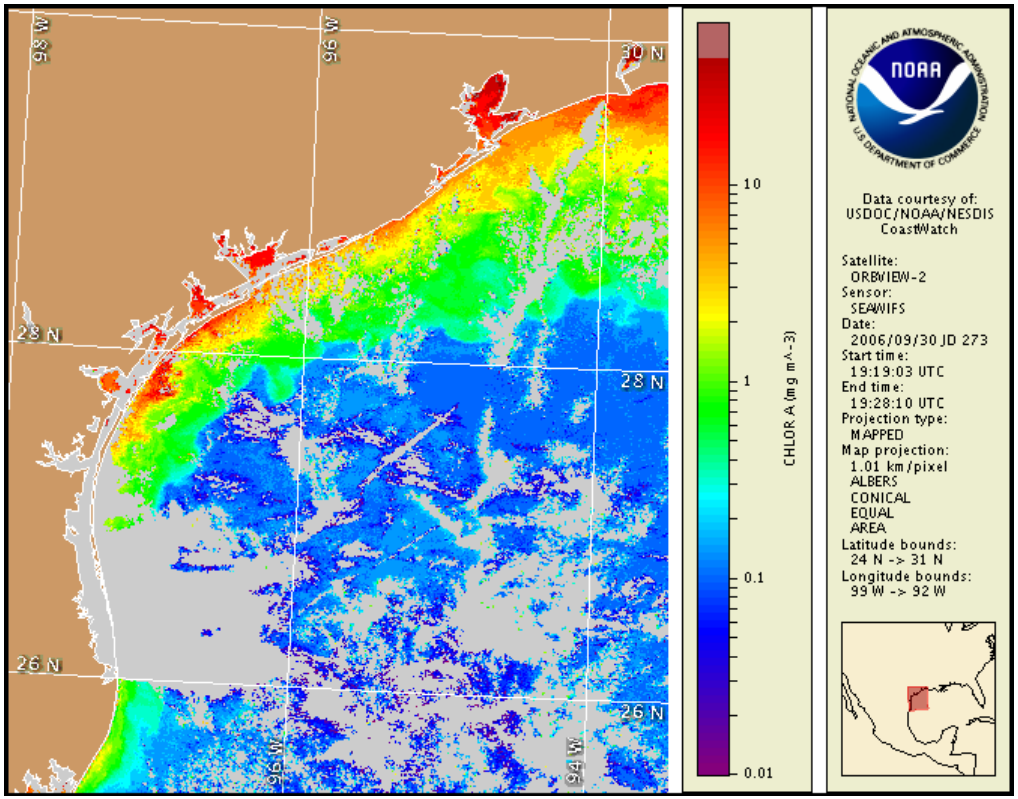
Conditions Report

A Harmful Algal Bloom has been confirmed in Aransas County. Impacts at the beach will be low.

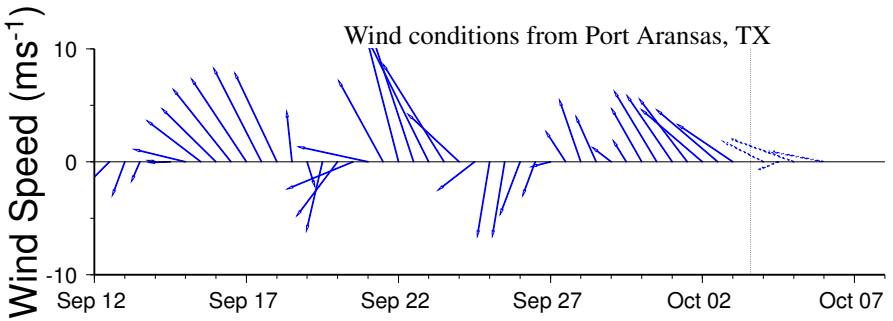
Analysis

Karenia brevis cell counts of 30 cells/ml have been recorded near Port Aransas, Texas. A fish kill has been reported in the La Quinta Channel. An overflight during the weekend saw Karenia off of Matagorda Island. Dead fish and respiratory irritation have been reported from Matagorda Island to Cavalle Pass. The chlorophyll imagery from Saturday, 9/30, (shown on this bulletin, clearest image available) has shown increases in chlorophyll from Corpus Christi Bay up to Matagorda Bay, relative to last weeks imagery. This increase in chlorophyll is likely as a result of increased Karenia in the area. Given recent meteorological conditions since 9/30 with southwesterly winds, the bloom could travel 50 km northward, as far as East Matagorda Bay.

Wynne, Shapiro, Jewett

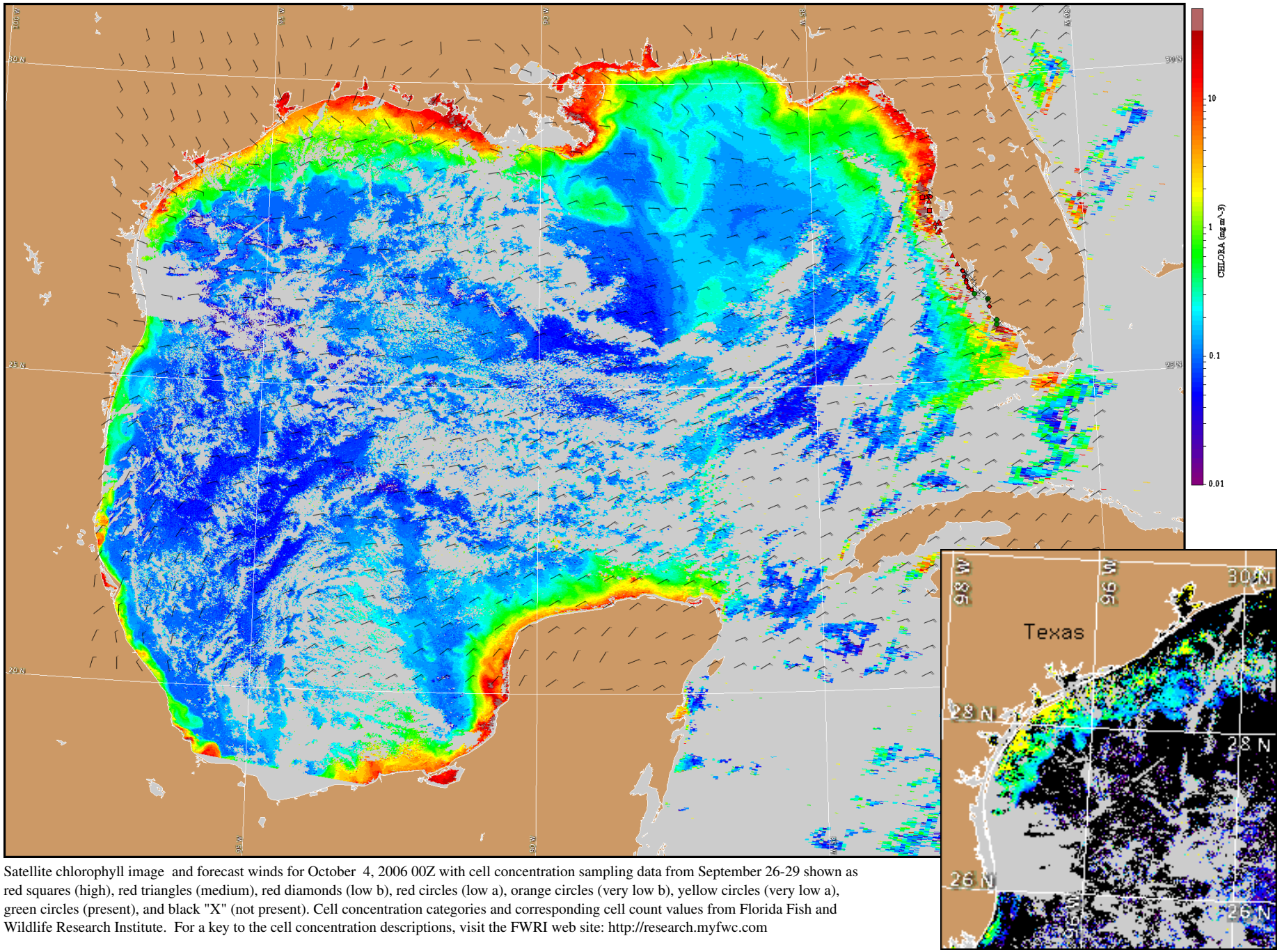


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 26-29 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present). Cell concentration categories and corresponding cell count values from Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit the FWRI web site: http://research.myfwc.com



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Winds have been blowing from the SE at 5-10 knots for more or less a week favoring onshore transport. Winds are expected to continue to blow in an ESE direction at 10-15 knots through Wednesday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 4, 2006 00Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 26-29 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present). Cell concentration categories and corresponding cell count values from Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit the FWRI web site: http://research.myfwc.com

Verifi ed HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).